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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

"The Old House"
West Street,
MARLOW,
BUCKS.

July, 1948.

To the Chairman and Members of the
MARLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1947.

SECTION A - Statistics.

Area (in acres)...	1664
Estimated population.	6164
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1947.	1846
Rateable Value...	£44,364
Sum represented by a penny rate.	£178



The statistical returns are calculated on a population of 6164 a figure supplied by the Registrar General.

<u>Live Births</u>	}	Legitimate	<u>Total</u> 141	M 65	F 76	Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated Population = 23.68
		Illegitimate	5	2	3	
<u>Still Births</u>			4	4	0	Birth rate for England and Wales = 20.5 per 1000.
<u>Deaths</u>			82	44	38	Death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population = 13.03. Death rate for England and Wales = 12.0 per 1000.

Population is counted as Resident Population differing from census figures.

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List):-

	Rate per 1,000 total	
	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Births</u>
No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil
No. 30 Other puerperal causes	Nil	Nil
Total ...	Nil	Nil

Death rate of Infants under one year of age:- M 2 F 1
1.

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT.

Public Health Staff.

The above consists of one part-time Medical Officer of Health and one Sanitary Inspector who is also the Surveyor to the Council, and holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board and Diploma of the Chartered Surveyors Institution and Testamure of the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers. He was appointed in June, 1938.

Laboratory Facilities.

Diphtheria swabs are examined for the Council at the Camberwell Research Laboratory.

Diphtheria anti-toxin is supplied free to practitioners and obtained from Mr. Bristow, Chemist, Oxford Road, High Wycombe.

Ambulance Facilities.

An ambulance is maintained for accidents and transport by the Local Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. This will be continued on but with Bourne End boundaries in July, 1948.

A similar ambulance is kept at Booker Isolation Hospital for the transport of fever cases. These services are satisfactory.

Nursing in the Home.

The Marlow Nursing Association provides two nurses who attend the sick poor, except in infectious cases, at their homes. They do the following-up work in connection with the Schools and act as midwives for the District. The Nursing Association is supported by voluntary contributions, patients subscriptions, and grants from the County Council and is not subsidised by the Urban District Council.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

There has been no change in the provision of treatment centres since the last report.

Hospitals.

The Public Hospitals are the Metropolitan Hospitals, the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, and the King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor. In addition, there is the Marlow Cottage Hospital which is supported by voluntary contributions.

SECTION C - WATER.

During the year no extensions of the public water supply have taken place. The water is supplied by the Marlow Water Company's deep wells.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Sewage Disposal Works continue to function satisfactorily.

Rivers and Streams.

No action has been taken during the past year to check the pollution of rivers or streams in the area. The Thames Conservancy frequently check the effluent from the Council's Sewage Disposal Works.

Public Cleansing.

A satisfactory standard of Refuse Collection and Disposal and Cesspool cleansing has been maintained.

Sanitary administration of the area.

List of Adoptive Acts in force in the District.

- Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890.
- Public Health Act, Amendment Act, 1890 Part lll.
- Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1907, Sections 81 to 86 of Part 7 and Part 8 (Home Secretary).
- Part 2 (in so far as not repealed by the P. H. A. 1936).
- Sections 53 and 54 on Part lV.
- Sections 92 and 95, comprised in Part X.
- Public Health Act, 1925 (whole sections except Section 20 repealed and 21 contained in Part 2).

Byelaws.

- New Street and Buildings.
- Common Lodging Houses.
- Slaughter Houses.
- Cleansing of Footways.
- Cleansing of Privies.
- Prevention of Nuisance from snow, keeping of animals etc.
- Removal of House Refuse.
- With respect to Tents, Vans, Sheds, and similar structures used for human habitation.
- Public Conveniences.
- Pleasure Grounds.
- Petrol Filling Station (Byelaws made by the County Council but enforceable by the Local Authority).

Statement of Works of Sanitary Inspector under Article 27 of Sanitary Officers Order, 1935.

Acts and Sections	Informal Notices Served	Complied with	Not complied with	In progress.
P.H.A. 1936 Section 58.	2	2	-	-
Section 75	28	26	-	2
Section 92	11	11	-	-
Housing Act, 1936 Section 9.	3	3	-	-
Total	44	42	-	2

No statutory notices were required to be served during the year.

Food Preparing Places.

Necessary inspections have been carried out from time to time.

Camping Sites.

There are no Camping Sites within the area and a minimum number of

licences have been issued by the Council under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Swimming Facilities.

The Council maintain a Bathing Place on the River Thames.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

During the year one dwelling-house was infested with bed bugs and was disinfested by the application of Zaldecide. This work was carried out by the Council's employees.

SECTION D - HOUSING.

(1) Unfit Dwelling-houses.

- (a) The total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts..... 10
- (b) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be not fit for human habitation..... Nil
- (c) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925..... Nil
- (d) Number of houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation..... 8

(2) Remedy of defects without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses made fit in consequence of informal action being taken by the Local Authority or their officers..... 8

(3) Action taken under Statutory Powers.

(a) Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices have been served requiring repairs..... Nil

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit by owner..... Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were found and notices served requiring defects to be remedied..... Nil

Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied.....

By Owners ... Nil

By Local Authority in default Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made..... Nil

Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders..... Nil

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made..... Nil

Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined but tenement or room having been rendered fit..... Nil

(e) Housing Act, 1936, Part IV - Overcrowding.

During the period of the war the Urban District has been heavily overcrowded at times and no correct statistics are now available of the number of houses overcrowded.

SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply. The necessary inspections of farms and dairies have been carried out throughout the year.

(b) Meat and other Foods. During the year the inspection of carcasses has been maintained and the following amount of meat has been condemned.

			<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts</u>	<u>lbs</u>
Beef	3	14	75
Mutton		1	65
Livers	2	2	101
Offal	1	16	99

SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases during the year.

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Measles	31	38
Diphtheria	2	
Scarlet Fever	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-
Smallpox	-	-
Whooping Cough	3	2
Tuberculosis Lungs	2	1
" Glands in neck	-	-
" Spine	1	1
Dysentery	-	-

Deaths occurred from the following causes:--

Bronchitis	2	4
Measles	-	-
Influenza	1	-
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	-	2
Cancer of the Mouth and Oesophagus	1	2
" " " Uterus	-	-
" " " Stomach and Duodenum	2	-
" in all other sites	-	2

	M	F
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	5	3
Heart Disease	18	12
Other Circulatory Diseases	-	-
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	-	-
Diarrhoea under two years	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-
Acute and chronic Nephritis	1	1
Congenital Debility and Malformation and Premature Birth	-	-
Senility	-	-
Violence	-	-
Other defined diseases	11	9
Road Death	1	-
Other undefined diseases	2	1
Ulceration of Stomach and Duodenum	-	-
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions.	4	5

Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

Tuberculosis - New Cases and Mortality during 1947.

Age Periods	New Cases							
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1								
5								
15			2	-	-	2		
25								
35	2							
45								
55		1						
65								
65 and upwards								
Totals	2	1	2	-	Nil	2	Nil	Nil

The Factories Act, 1937.

Inspections have been made of premises within the Urban District coming within the scope of this Act.

Many thanks are due to Mr. Kelvin Smith, your Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector for the keenness and ability with which he has carried out his duties since his appointment in June, 1938.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) F. H. P. WILLS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

